The Weather

Today: Sunny and much cooler. High

Tonight: Clear and chilly. Low 45°F. Tomorrow: Mostly sunny. High 63°F. Details, Page 2

Volume 129, Number 39 Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139 Friday, September 25, 2009

# Planned for Campus

Several new dining locations are expected to arrive on campus in the new Sloan School, the new Koch Institute building, and Pritchett Dining, during next 18 months.

And Café Spice, which sells Indian food in the student center's Lobdell Food Court will reopen in October with an updated menu and new management.

Plans are underway for a Chinese restaurant to open in Pritchett, said Rich D. Berlin III, director of cam-

The idea of reopening Pritchett for service was coupled with the permanent closing this summer of dinner service at the Forbes Family Café in the Stata Center, said Berlin. According to Berlin, surveys conducted by Campus Dining in the past indicated that there was a high

pus, especially food that could be purchased with TechCash and delivered to dorms.

In July, Berlin sent an e-mail addressed to the students and housemasters of East Campus and Senior House announcing the plans and asking for suggestions for potential operators. The process of installing a new dining location takes about three to six months, said Berlin. He is working on a Request for Proposal for the proposed operation, which will set expectations for the new restaurant and solicit proposals from interested operators. Still, there is no set timeline for the development of Pritchett Dining.

Berlin said the dining facilities planned for the new Sloan and Koch Institute buildings will ideally open

Dining, Page 14

# **Most Cut Varsity Sports Have Returned As CSC Club Sports This Season**

By Robert McQueen

Six of the eight teams stripped of varsity status last spring have been reinstated as club sports under the Club Sports Council. Two teams did not receive CSC recognition: women's ice hockey, for which there already exists a club sport, and wrestling, which is still trying to regain varsity status.

According to Julie Soriero, MIT's athletic director, the six ex-varsity teams that have become new club sports are alpine skiing, golf, men's gymnastics, women's gymnastics, men's ice hockey, and pistol.

Soriero said that, in order for DA-PER to reconsider a team for varsity status, the team must raise \$1 million for an endowment account that would be used to pay the team's expenses. The team must also improve on metrics that were determined in a Health and Vitality Study conducted several years ago and were used last spring in determining which sports would be cut, said Soriero.

The shift from varsity to club status has changed some sports' coaching arrangements, since the CSC can only provide limited funding to sup-

Friends, Family Remember Hostess at Legal's

Sports, Page 13

# Café Spice to Reopen; MIT's Post Office May Be Closed; New Dining Locations | Final Decision Expected in October

By Pearle Lipinski

The fate of the MIT post office will likely be determined next month, according to the United States Postal Service (USPS). The office, slated for closure along with eight other Boston-area university post offices, has been on the chopping block since a July 30 USPS announcement. If the MIT branch is closed, its users will have sixty days

to adjust their operations and redirect mail to the Kendall Square post office before the MIT branch shuts its doors.

The possibility of the MIT post office's closure arose as part of a widespread restructuring of USPS operations and has drawn opposition from the American Postal Workers Union and some MIT students, several of whom are facilitating efforts to keep the post office alive.

Dennis P. Tarmey, postmaster of North Reading, MA, and the USPS Greater Boston Discontinuance Coordinator, said that the fate of the office will be decided by Katherine E. Lydon, postmaster of Cambridge, MA, and Charles K. Lynch, the USPS Greater Boston district manager, in October.

Lynch and Lydon's decision will

Post Office, Page 14



Customers make use of the MIT post office in the Student Center on Sept. 21. The post office is one of about 400 branches being considered for closure.

# MIT Endowment Decreased by 20 Percent Last Fiscal Year, Ending 7 Years of Growth

By Meghan Nelson

MIT's endowment has suffered during the recession, declining 20.7 percent in value since last year to \$8.0 billion from \$10.1 billion and ending a seven year period of growth, the MIT Investment Management

Company (MITIMCo) recently announced.

The total revenue from investments dropped 17.1 percent during the most recently completed fiscal year, which ended on June 30, 2009. A drop in donations accounts for the rest of the endowment decline.

MITIMCo predicted steep losses for the year in February, when it reported that the endowment had already suffered a 20 to 25 percent decrease, and forecasted then that the endowment could drop by as much as 30 percent. Now with the

financial year at a close, MITIM-Co credits its better-than-expected performance to its "diversified approach to investment," and that "investments in the fixed income, marketable alternative, real asset, and real estate arenas helped offset significant declines in public and private equity portfolios.

A quarter of MIT's General Institute Budget (GIB), which covers most of its operational costs, is funded by the endowment. Another

**Endowment, Page 13** 

# **DMSE Lab Construction on the** Infinite Should Finish by Dec.

By Joy E. Lee

Sometime soon, probably early next year, passersby in the Infinite Corridor will look through glass windows to see a scanning acoustic microscope and cryogenic probe station in the Department for Materials Science and Engineering's new Laboratory for Advanced Materials (LAM), currently under construction at the intersection of Buildings

But for now, a partition of drywall juts into the hall space, narrowing the Infinite where the lab will be.

The construction project started in June 2009 and is currently scheduled to finish in December 2009.

Reactions to the obstruction are varied. Edward J. Rodriguez '13 said, "It's an inconvenience, but it's not a major one."

Claudia J. Richardson '12 said, feel like it's a good thing for Course 3, but I wish that they had been smarter in planning it and tried to finish it before the school year started."

Construction, Page 11

#### ily gathered at the Kendall Square Legal Sea Foods on Wednesday in memory of Anna McAllister, a beloved hostess at the restaurant who died recently.

Anna, who hosted Legal Sea ods for over 35 years left an enduring influence on Legal Sea Foods and members of the MIT community who knew her.

There, the MIT Class of 1954 presented a plaque honoring Anna's service, which is now on display at the restaurant.

"I knew her for almost 42 years," said Course 8 professor emeritus and popular former 8.01 lecturer Walter H. G. Lewin, "since she started in Inman Square [the original Legal Sea Foods].

Attendees remembered how

McAllister, Page 11



Members of the Class of 1954 (from left to right) Joseph Blake, Harvey Steinberg, and MIT President Emeritus Paul E. Gray reminisce at Legal Sea Foods on Wednesday after a memorial ceremony for the late Anna McAllister, a longtime hostess at the restaurant and friend to many in the MIT community.



Comics

Page 9



Glee is a fun

new sitcom.

Page 6

**O**PINION

Getting rid of the long essay is a mistake.

Page 4

Should newspapers report old news like it's new? Page 5

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# World & Nation

# **FDA Admits Role of Politics** In Safety Case

**By Gardiner Harris** and David M. Halbfinger

THE NEW YORK TIMES

The Food and Drug Administration said Thursday that four New Jersey congressmen and its own former commissioner unduly influenced the process that led to its decision last year to approve a patch for injured knees, an approval it is now revisiting.

The agency's scientific reviewers repeatedly and unanimously over many years decided that the device, known as Menaflex and manufactured by ReGen Biologics Inc., was unsafe because the device often failed, forcing patients to get another operation.

But after receiving what an FDA report described as "extreme," "unusual" and persistent pressure from four Democrats from New Jersey Sens. Robert Menendez and Frank R. Lautenberg and Reps. Frank Pallone Jr. and Steven R. Rothman — agency managers overruled the scientists and approved the device for sale in December.

All four legislators made their inquiries within a few months of receiving significant campaign contributions from ReGen, which is based in New Jersey, but all said they acted appropriately and were not influenced by the money.

## **Hyatts In Boston Area Face Protests after Layoffs**

By Steven Greenhouse

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Hyatt Hotels is facing a wave of anger and protests as a result of its decision to lay off 98 members of its housekeeping staff at three Boston area hotels and replace them with lower paid workers.

Upset by the layoffs, Gov. Deval Patrick of Massachusetts has called on state employees to boycott Hyatt hotels unless the company reinstates

The housekeepers generally earned \$14 to \$16 an hour with health benefits, while their replacements, union and Hyatt officials say, are being paid around \$8 an hour without health benefits. Hyatt said it was "very disappointed" by Patrick's boycott threat, saying it endangers the jobs of 600 Hyatt employees in the Boston area.

"The difficult decision to outsource the housekeeping function at our Boston properties was made in response to the unprecedented economic challenges those hotels are facing in the current business environment," Hyatt said in a statement. "A precipitous drop in revenues at our Boston hotels has made major cost-cutting measures necessary."

#### **Experts Awed by Anglo-Saxon Treasure Found by** Man with Metal Detector

By John F. Burns

THE NEW YORK TIMES

For the jobless man living on welfare who made the find in an English farmer's field two months ago, it was the stuff of dreams: a hoard of early Anglo-Saxon treasure, probably dating from the seventh century and including more than 1,500 pieces of intricately worked gold and silver whose craftsmanship and historical significance left archaeologists awestruck.

When the discovery was announced Thursday, experts described it as one of the most important in British archaeological history.

The new trove includes gold items weighing 11 pounds, and 5.5 pounds of silver. Tentatively identified by some experts as bounty from one of the wars that racked Middle England in the seventh and eighth centuries, they included sword pommels and dagger hilts, scabbard bosses and helmet cheekpieces, Christian crosses and figures of animals, eagles and fish.

Archaeologists initially estimate the value of the trove at 1 million pounds — about \$1.6 million — but say it could be many times that.

# **Terror Suspect Is Charged** With Preparing Explosives

By William K. Rashbaum

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Federal authorities have charged a man jailed since last week with acquiring and preparing explosive materials like those used in the 2005 London subway bombings days before he traveled to New York City earlier this month, asserting that he and others were involved in a Oaida conspiracy to strike in the United

Prosecutors, in papers filed in federal court in Brooklyn on Thursday, said Najibullah Zazi, 24, received explosives training in Pakistan in 2008, moved from Queens, N.Y., to Denver immediately upon returning in early 2009, and eventually began preparing to make bombs: purchasing large amounts of chemicals at beauty supply stores, renting a hotel suite to experiment with mixing the materials for use in bombs, and receiving urgent technical assistance on how to perfect the process.

Prosecutors did not make clear whether Zazi, a legal resident who was born in Afghanistan, intended to strike in New York City, Denver or elsewhere, or whether they even knew. They said in court papers

that this month he scouted a store in Queens for an acid essential in creating the bombs and two weeks ago slept in an apartment in Flushing where investigators recovered a scale that could be used in making explosives.

The court filings raise the possibility of how much else the authorities may not yet know, including whether Zazi was a mastermind of the plot or simply a willing participant acting under the direction of others. The 12-page filing mentions as many as three other people who assisted Zazi in Colorado, as well as another person with whom he consulted about making the bombs. And while the authorities have said repeatedly since the investigation became public Sept. 14 that more arrests were likely to follow, they did not announce any Thursday.

The uncertainty about Zazi's intentions and associates may be in some part due to the fact that investigators were forced to take the investigation public and move to make hasty arrests after, they now have said, an imam in Queens tipped off Zazi that he was under scrutiny.

The charges filed Thursday, and

the details cited in support of them, certainly amount to some of the most serious and disturbing since 9/11. The authorities have had scores of federal agents and local officers working on the case in recent days and weeks.

"We believe any imminent threat arising from this case has been disrupted," Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. said in a statement. "We are investigating a wide range of leads."

Zazi was arrested Saturday night, and charged with lying to federal officials during three days of interrogation in Denver last week. He is scheduled to appear in court on Friday for a hearing during which prosecutors will seek to return him to New York to face the most recent charges.

Zazi's father and the imam from Queens, both of whom were charged with lying to agents during questioning last week, were released on bond.

On Thursday, lawyers for Zazi did not respond to questions from reporters in Denver. Before he was arrested, Zazi denied wrongdoing, saying in interviews and through his lawyers that he had no links to al-Qaida or any terrorist plot.

# Twitter's Market Capitalization To Reach \$1 Billion

By Brad Stone

THE NEW YORK TIMES

SAN FRANCISCO

Twitter has trained people to compress their thoughts into 140 characters and given a public stage to both dissidents in Iran and voluble stars like Shaquille O'Neal.

Now the startup appears to have chalked up another achievement. Twitter, which has no discernible revenue, is set to raise about \$100 million of new funding that would value the company at around \$1 billion, a person briefed on the company's plans said Thursday.

For context, that is almost double the market capitalization of Domino's Pizza, which has 10,500 employees and had \$1.4 billion in sales last year.

Twitter has some 60 employees, and although it is experimenting with running advertisements on its Web site, Biz Stone, a Twitter founder, said

this week at an industry conference that the company had no plans to begin widely running ads until 2010.

But Twitter's cash infusion and exospheric valuation are not easily reduced to the level of the blind bets of past dot-com bubbles. In its threeand-a-half years, Twitter has become a magnet for media attention, and its Web site now attracts 54 million visitors a month, according to comScore, the tracking firm. Along with Facebook, it is helping to remake the Web as a forum for the perpetual sharing of even the most trivial bits of information about people's lives.

"There have probably been less than five examples of companies that have grown like Twitter has," said John Borthwick, the chief executive of Betaworks, which created the linkshortening service Bit.ly. (Betaworks also invested in Summize, a Twitter search engine that Twitter acquired last year, and it now owns a small stake in the company.)

Borthwick lists Google, YouTube and Facebook as other examples. Twitter "represents a next layer of innovation on the Internet," he said. "This investment is happening because it represents a shift.'

The new investors include Insight Venture Partners, a venture capital firm based in New York; T. Rowe Price, the mutual fund company, which is not normally known for placing such bets; and the current Twitter backers Spark Capital and Institutional Venture Partners.

The investment is likely to kick off more discussion about the heady valuations investors are assigning to some Internet startups, even as the U.S. economy struggles to emerge from a deep recession and the window for initial public offerings remains weak.

# NEATHER

#### Who's Eddy?

By Angela Zalucha

Many people are often foiled by the assumption that today's weather will be the same as yesterday's weather, finding themselves wearing shorts when things suddenly take a turn for the cooler side. Such quickly changing weather is a consequence of living in the midlatitudes, where the circulation pattern is dominated by what meteorologists call eddies.

An example of eddies are the swirling patterns in a fast moving stream as water flows around obstacles. In a meteorological sense, eddies can be of different scales. The high and low pressure systems drawn on the weather map are examples of synoptic eddies. This type of eddy occurs on large scales of about a thousand kilometers or several states wide. They move generally from west to east and cause our weather pattern to change every few days. A weather map in the tropics, however, would not have any highs or lows drawn on it. Another type of eddies, mesoscale eddies, occur on smaller scales of around a hundred kilometers, perhaps due to large features in the landscape such as mountains. Even smaller turbulent eddies occur near the surface, as air flows over and around things on the ground.

Sunny but much cooler weather visits us today and tomorrow, with rain likely on Sunday.

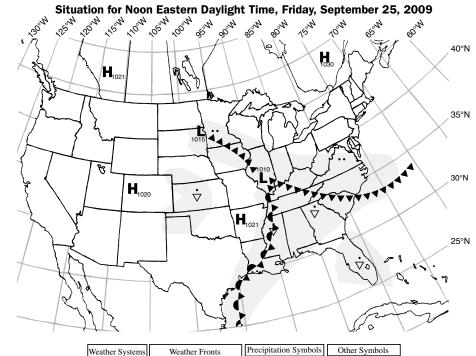
#### **Extended Forecast**

Today: Sunny and much cooler. High 65°F (18°C). North winds 15 to 20

Tonight: Clear and chilly. Low 45°F (7°C).

Tomorrow: Mostly sunny. High 63°F (17°C). Southeast winds around 10

Sunday: Rain. High 66°F (19°C)





# AIDS Vaccine Shows Benefit, **Pointing Way to More Study**

By Donald G. Mcneil Jr.

Scientists said Thursday that a new AIDS vaccine, the first ever declared to protect a significant minority of humans against the disease, would be studied to answer two fundamental questions: Why it worked in some people but not in others, and why those infected despite vaccination received no benefit at all.

The vaccine - known as RV 144, a combination of two genetically engineered vaccines, neither of which had worked before in humans was declared a qualified success after a six-year clinical trial on more than 16,000 volunteers in Thailand. Those who were vaccinated became infected at a rate nearly one-third lower than the others, the sponsors said Thursday morning.

"I don't want to use a word like 'breakthrough,' but I don't think there's any doubt that this is a very important result," said Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, the director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, which is one of the trial's backers.

"For more than 20 years now,

vaccine trials have essentially been failures," Fauci said. "Now it's like we were groping down an unlit path, and a door has been opened. We can start asking some very important questions."

It will still, however, take years of work before a vaccine that could end the epidemic, which has killed about 25 million people, can even be contemplated.

'We often talk about whether a vaccine is even possible," said Mitchell Warren, the executive director of the AIDS Vaccine Advocacy Coalition, or AVAC. "This is not the vaccine that ends the epidemic and says, 'OK, let's move on to something else.' But it's a fabulous new step that takes us in a new direction."

In which direction is still unknown. No one - including the researchers from the U.S. Army, the National Institutes of Health, the Thai Ministry of Public Health and two vaccine companies that tested the vaccine - knows why the vaccine gave even its weak indicator of

Experts generally disdain vac-

cines that do not protect at least 70 percent to 80 percent of those getting them. And this vaccine did not lower the viral loads of people who were vaccinated but caught the virus anyway, which was baffling because even mismatched vaccines usually

Simply repeating the trial to confirm the results would be pointless, experts agreed.

The trial, the largest AIDS vaccine trial in history, cost \$105 million and followed 16,402 Thai volunteers.

The men and women ages 18 to 30 were recruited from two provinces southeast of the capital, Bangkok, from the general population rather than from high-risk groups like drug injectors or sex workers. Half received six doses of two different vaccines; half were given placebos.

For ethical reasons, all were offered condoms, taught how to avoid infection and promised lifelong antiretroviral treatment if they got AIDS. They were then regularly tested for three years; 74 of those who received placebos became infected, but only 51 of those who received the vac-

# **Obama Pushes To Update Global Rules on Nuclear Arms**

By David E. Sanger

THE NEW YORK TIMES

PITTSBURGH

President Barack Obama moved on Thursday to tighten the noose around Iran, North Korea and other nations that have exploited gaping loopholes in the patchwork of global nuclear regulations.

Obama pushed through a new U.N. Security Council resolution that would, if enforced, make it more difficult to turn peaceful nuclear programs into weapons projects.

But as Obama sat in New York as chairman of the Security Council a first for a U.S. president, meant to symbolize his commitment to rebuild the council's tattered authority — he received a taste of the opposition he is likely to face on some of his nuclear initiatives.

Some developing and nonnuclear nations bridled at the idea of Security Council mandates and talked of a "nuclear free zone" in the Middle East. That is widely recognized as a code phrase for requiring Israel to give up its unacknowledged nuclear

The Security Council meeting was

the last major business at the United Nations before Obama arrived here for an economic summit meeting of the Group of 20. It capped three days of intensive diplomacy leading up to the first direct negotiations with Iran in decades that will involve a representative of the United States, scheduled for next Thursday.

But Obama used the meeting to broaden the issue, hoping to stop an incipient arms race in the region and rewrite outdated treaties, starting with a review of the 1972 Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty next year.

This is not about singling out an individual nation," Obama said. "International law is not an empty promise, and treaties must be enforced."

Yet Iran was the subtext of every conversation.

At the end of Obama's three days of public and private arm-twisting, it was still unclear how many other leaders were committed to what the White House once called "crippling sanctions" against Iran if it continues making nuclear fuel and refuses to respond to questions about evidence it worked on the design of a nuclear

Russia's president, Dmitri A. Medvedev, sounded more open to supporting sanctions at a meeting with Obama in New York. But that position seemed at odds with statements last week by Prime Minister Vladimir V. Putin, who regularly angered President George W. Bush for his refusal to sign on to sanctions that might seize the attention of Iran's rul-

Medvedev spoke generally, and did not embrace any specific ideas for sanctions, including discussion of cutting off Iran's access to refined gasoline imports.

More mysterious is whether Obama convinced China's president,

"We've been trying to convince him that if this gets out of control, China's own interests — especially in oil — will be hurt, so they better get involved," one senior aide to Obama

But Hu talked instead at Thursday's meetings of arms cuts among the major powers, noting that China possesses only "the minimum number of nuclear weapons" needed for

# **Energy Dept. Offers \$10 Million Prize for Better Bulb**

By Eric A. Taub and Leora Broydo Vestel

THE NEW YORK TIMES The ubiquitous but highly inefficient 60-watt light bulb badly needs a makeover. And it could be worth millions in government prize money – and more in government contracts - to the first company that figures out how to do it.

Right now, that company could be Philips, the Dutch electronics giant. The company announced on Thursday that it had submitted the first entry for the L Prize, a Department of Energy contest that will award up to \$10 million to the first person or group to create a new energy-sipping version of the most popular type of light bulb used in America.

As the first entrant, Philips will win the prize if its claims hold up. Testing of the Philips lamp will take close to a year to complete as the department independently evaluates the company's claims.

'Philips is confident that the product submitted meets or exceeds all of the criteria for the L Prize," Rudy Provoost, chief of Philips Lighting,

The \$10 million is almost beside the point: The contest winner will more importantly receive consideration for potentially lucrative federal purchasing agreements, not to mention a head start at cracking a vast consumer marketplace.

The L Prize has garnered significant attention in the lighting industry because 60-watt incandescent lamps represent 50 percent of all the lighting in the United States, with 425 million sold each year. The Energy Department says that if all those lamps were LED equivalents, enough power would be saved to light 17.4 million American households and cut annual carbon emissions by 5.6 million metric tons annually.

For decades, incandescent light bulbs continued to bear a strong resemblance to Thomas Edison's creations, but new energy standards that go into effect in 2012 — and would outlaw today's incandescent bulb have brought about a period of fertile innovation in the lighting industry. One of the first attempts at greater efficiency was the now-maligned

have also been efforts to modify incandescent technology to conform to the new standard. LED bulbs are already available in stores, but those models have limited output and high prices. A faithful reproduction of an incandescent bulb's light from an inexpensive and efficient source has been the industry's ultimate goal.

Philips has delivered 2,000 prototypes of its bulb to the Energy Department for testing. The company says the bulbs meet all the criteria of the contest, which specifies a bulb that reproduces the same amount and color of light made by a 60-watt incandescent bulb, but uses only 10 watts of power. The bulb must also last for more than 25,000 hours about 25 times longer than a standard light bulb. In a nod to economic concerns, at least 75 percent of the bulb must be made or assembled in the United States.

If the new bulb passes the department's testing regimen, it will be an even more efficient, longer-lasting lighting device than today's compact fluorescent bulbs.

#### **Former Kennedy Aide** Will Fill His Senate Seat

By Abby Goodnough and Carl Hulse

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BOSTON

Gov. Deval Patrick today named Paul G. Kirk Jr., a former aide and longtime confidant of the late Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, to Kennedy's

"He shares the sense of service that so distinguished Senator Kennedy," Patrick, a Democrat, said at a news conference in Boston. "The interests of the commonwealth have never been more vital or at stake in the Congress today.

Kirk, a longtime friend of the Kennedy family and onetime special assistant to Kennedy, is scheduled to take the oath of office on Friday and serve until a special election on Jan. 19; he has pledged not to run in the election. He said on Thursday that he would keep the late senator's staff in place.

Kirk was the favorite of the late senator's wife and two sons, as well as some officials in President Barack Obama's administration, according to people familiar with the matter. The president issued a statement after the appointment was announced.

"I am pleased that Massachusetts will have its full representation in the United States Senate in the coming months, as important issues such as health care, financial reform and energy will be debated," Obama said. "Paul Kirk is a distinguished leader whose long collaboration with Senator Kennedy makes him an excellent interim choice to carry on his work until the voters make their choice in January."

#### **Investors Are Skittish Over Slowing Home Sales**

By Jack Healy

THE NEW YORK TIMES

The housing market, a source of so many of the country's economic problems, caused more headaches for Wall Street on Thursday.

Stocks fell after a real estate group reported that sales of existing homes dropped 2.7 percent in August. The figures disappointed economists and investors, who had been expecting a fifth consecutive month

The Dow Jones industrial average declined 41.11 points, or 0.4 percent, to close at 9,707.44. The broader Standard & Poor's 500-stock index lost 10.09 points, or 1 percent, to 1,050.78, while the Nasdaq composite index fell 23.81 points, or 1.1 percent, to 2,107.61.

The selling ran through many sectors of the market. Big banks and regional lenders that offer mortgages and construction loans were down. Shares of major home builders sank, as did big industrial companies that make the materials used to build homes and offices.

Energy companies like Chevron and Marathon Oil fell as the price of crude oil slid \$3.08, to \$65.89 a barrel, the lowest in more than a month. Oil prices have swung between \$65 and \$70 a barrel for much of the summer as traders have tried to determine whether a strong rebound will spur demand for oil, or whether a faltering one will keep consumption low.

For many investors, the dip in sales of existing homes reflected broader worries about how the economy would perform as some support programs from the government slowly wind down.

#### This Time, Feds' Terror Probe May Have Real Thing

**By David Johnston** 

and Scott Shane

Since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, senior government officials have announced dozens of terrorism cases that on closer examination seemed to diminish as legitimate threats. The accumulating evidence against a Denver airport shuttle driver suggests he may be different, with some investigators calling his case the most serious in years

Documents filed in Brooklyn against the driver, Najibullah Zazi, contend that in purchasing chemicals needed to build a bomb gen peroxide, acetone and hydrochloric acid — Zazi took a critical step made by few other terror suspects.

While many important facts remain unknown, those allegations alone would distinguish Zazi from nearly all the defendants in U.S. terror cases in recent years. More often than not the earlier suspects emerged as angry young men, inflamed by the rhetoric of Osama bin Laden or his associates. Some were serious in intent. More than a few seemed to be malcontents without the organization, technical skills and financing to be much of a threat. In two unrelated cases in which charges were announced on Thursday, in fact, the subjects dealt extensively with undercover agents.

## **WGBH Deal** May Spark a Radio Battle

By Megan Woolhouse

and Johnny Diaz

THE BOSTON GLOBI

Boston radio is about to get hit with a heavier dose of daily news, but will enough listeners tune in?

WGBH plans to convert to a news format on 89.7 FM, which could mean a head-on fight for listeners, pitting WGBH against two veteran all news and talk stations, WBZ and WBUR. Similar efforts in other major metropolitan areas have met with success and failure, depending on the city and its appetite for news, but some analysts say Boston could support three all news radio stations because of its size and abundance of colleges and universities that bring an intellectually curious population to the city.

"In a market like Boston, you've got people interested in the world beyond them," said industry consultant Scott Fybush, who publishes the newsletter Northeast Radio Watch. "You've got people from all over the world who are there and not getting exactly what they want from commercial news.'

WGBH said Monday it plans to buy classical music station WCRB-FM, a deal estimated at \$14 million. The move will allow the station to continue offering classical music and let WBGH change the format at its flagship station, 89.7 FM, to all news and talk. Jeanne Hopkins, a WGBH spokeswoman, offered new details Tuesday about the proposed programming changes for 89.7, changes that still must be approved by the Federal Communications Commission.

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# **U**PINION



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# Corrections

A front page "In Short" item in Tuesday's Tech about a talk to be given by Noam Chomsky gave the wrong date for the event. The talk will happen on Tuesday, September 29, not Tuesday, September 22.

# In Defense of the Art of the Pen

Clare Bayley

Both articles I've read about the change to the admissions essays have been so wishywashy I find myself wondering if John Kerry is a ghost writer for The Tech. In an age where e-mails are being replaced by texts, magazines are being replaced by blogs, and blogs are being replaced by Twitter, MIT seems to have hopped on the shortening bandwagon with their recent decision to eliminate the long admission essay and the biography-loving, multisyllabicword-using, still-writes-with-pen-and-paper writer in me screams in indignation.

Now, please don't get me wrong, I'm not attempting to fault the short essay in any way, but its position is not in danger here. I have heard little convincing criticism against the long essay, and while high praise has been heaped upon its shorter counterpart, there was a short essay in there before! In classic MIT fashion, we are wiping out the quality and diversity of information in exchange for a consistent data set and higher word count. I feel it is my duty as a lover of the written word to defend the merit of lengthy writing before the long essay goes the way of mailing letters and classical literature.

One issue that does merit serious concern is applicants recycling and over-polishing essays. Ben Jones, former admissions director of communications, says in his blog: "[W]e are looking for the applicant's true voice when we

read his or her essay. Not some perfect piece of prose [...]" My inner cynic wants to say "tough, it's their fault if they produce some bland over-processed generic drivel," but overachieving high school seniors will be overachieving high school seniors, and we should at least make some effort to dissuade them of this. My essay? Yes, I polished it. Yes, I got others to edit it. Yes, I worried about it to death before sending it in. I still feel that it's one of the most creative, introspective, and thoughtful pieces I have ever written, and I sure couldn't have done it in 250 words.

My suggestion? Change the prompts, not the length. If you want to make sure they write from the heart, show their true creativity and passion, and, most importantly, not just copy an overly-edited essay from another school's application, give them something good to write about. We've all gone through the application process — how many colleges asked for an essay on a "significant challenge you've faced"? (It's a prompt on this year's application, yet

If you want a unique, raw, break-from-theformula essay, take a look at the prompts the University of Chicago uses, famous for their creativity and originality. One from 2005 asks you to "Write an essay somehow inspired by super-huge mustard." Another from 2003 asks "How do you feel about Wednesday?" Talk about an essay that really showcases a person's thinking process!

But enough of my squawking — what do

this year's applicants have to say about it? (All quotes were taken from College Confidential.)

"i liked the one long essay better -\_-"

"I kind of feel like I can't get a really good thought started and completed in 250 words." "too short >:O i can hardly express every-

thing in 250 words >\_<"

"After working on the application a little bit, I'm finding it extremely hard to say anything meaningful in less than 250 words."

Another common response applicants have expressed is relief — relief that we have made it easier. Relief? Easier? They're applying to MIT, the most acclaimed technical school in the world! Our admission rate this last year was 10.2 percent. We are consistently listed among the top 10 universities in the country. According to a March 17 article by *The Tech*, the number of applications for 2009 "increased by the largest margin in recent memory." This application is their first piece of work assigned by MIT – and we all know those are never easy.

And why have we not heard from our Humanities school on this? After all their recent efforts to introduce writing to the curriculum and improve our communication skills, we respond by making our admissions essays easier. Where is their outrage? Why is a course 6 major the one angrily writing about this? Bah, humbug.

Clare Bayley is a member of the Class of

# UA Update

# Voting Changes, Planning Task Force Feedback

The voting period for the UA Senate, 2013 Class Council, 2011 Class Council Treasurer Elections has changed. Electronic voting at vote. mit.edu now begins tomorrow at 12:01 a.m. and ends on Thursday, October 1 at 11:59 p.m. Paper ballots will still be available in Lobby 10 on Friday, October 2 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The results will be posted on Saturday, October 3. Any questions should be directed to ua-elect@ mit.edu.

Applications for UA Committees are being accepted until today at 11:00 p.m., and interested students should apply at http://ua.mit.edu/

Undergraduates concerned about any of the proposed budget changes from the Institute-wide Planning Task Force should express their concerns by e-mailing ua@mit.edu.

—Elizabeth A. Denys, UA Secretary General



#### **Opinion Policy**

Editorials are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of Chairman Austin Chu, Editor in Chief Nick Bushak, Managing Editor Steve Howland, Executive Editor Michael McGraw-Herdeg, Opinion Editors Joseph Maurer and Ethan Solomon, and Senior Editor Andrew T. Lukmann.

Dissents are the opinions of signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

Letters to the editor, columns, and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. The Tech reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will

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Guest columns are opinion articles submitted by members of the MIT or local community and have the author's name in italics. Columns without italics are written by *Tech* staff.

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# To Bomb Or Not To Bomb

# Why a Preemptive Strike Against Iran Is the Wrong Move

the United States could step in

and join Israel's side. After that,

who knows how other foreign

powers will react?

#### Ryan Normandin

Once again, tensions in the Middle East are running high. Many of the controversies swirl around Iran, which has made headlines recently for a variety of reasons — none of them

First, President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad reclaimed the presidency during the recent Iranian elections amid claims that the process was rigged, which spawned massive protests throughout the country. Then the government decided that the best way to handle the protests was to cut off cell phone service, block websites, and use the Revolutionary Guard and the Basij militia against the protesters.

More recently, Iran's esteemed president declared his belief that the Holocaust was a lie motivated by Western powers as an excuse to create the state of Israel.

On Tuesday, he said in another speech that Iran was "stronger than ever." The effect of this was somewhat dampened by the military jet that crashed during the parade, illustrating just how "strong" Iran is.

Pause for a moment to consider something: Ahmadinejad is the leader of a country. It is tempting, then, to disregard the man as a joke and pity the people who have had him forced upon them through a rigged election. Unfortunately, Iran must be taken very seriously. For

throughout all the chaos, Iran has carried on with its enrichment of uranium, and the U.S. believes that Iran now has enough of it to make a nuclear weapon. This is worrying to countries throughout the world, but especially to Israel, which Ahmadinejad has promised to "wipe off the map."

With a nuclear weapon, that wouldn't be

overly difficult. The U.S. government estimates that it would If Russia steps in to defend Iran, planes that the United take at least until 2013 for Iran to develop such capabilities, but this does not provide much solace. Being wiped off the map, whenever that may take place, is not an idea that Israel is comfortable with.

So what are Israel's choices? There are, at present, two major options. The first is to wait for further negotiations with the United Nations and hope that Iran decides that, after all the work they've put into them and all the big plans they have for them, they don't actually want nuclear weapons. Their second option is a preemptive strike against Iran's nuclear facilities. Now the fact of the matter is that Iran is about as likely to stop its enrichment program as I am to major in cooking.

The Israeli prime minister, Benjamin Ne-

tanyahu '75, has repeatedly said that "no option is being taken off the table," despite pressure from the United States to abstain from attacking Iran. In some ways, this option is

Although Iran's leader claims that "no power dares imagine an invasion against Iran," Iran actually has no modern military that is capable

of defending itself. Its air force includes States gave to Iran before the Islamic Revolution (the irony!). If Israel decides that it is going to attack Iran, there is little Iran can do to retaliate, at least currently.

Russia, which has

already opposed sanctions against Iran, has signed a deal with Iran to sell them S-300s (the Russian equivalent of U.S. Patriot missiles). This ground-to-air missile system would make attacking Iran a bit more problematic for

Not only that, but Medvedev has called an Israeli airstrike "the worst thing that can be imagined." An attack on Iran could be dangerous in a World War I domino-effect way. If Russia steps in to defend Iran, the United States could step in and join Israel's side. After that, who knows how other foreign powers will react?

Another distinct possibility is that, if Israel attacks Iran without the support of foreign nations, little will be done by the world powers to avert any retaliation against Israel. This is why Israel needs to learn from the mistakes that the United States made in deciding to invade Iraq without the real backing of the E.U. and other major world players. We were forced to fight it largely alone, and Israel cannot afford to do that, especially if Russia decides to play a more direct role.

The right move for Israel is to wait. Wait for the upcoming U.N. conferences during which Iran will continue to be pressured about its nuclear program. Miracles happen; maybe Iran will do a nuclear U-turn. Maybe internal political strife will bring the collapse of Ahmadinejad's regime and bring someone with a semblance of sanity to power. Maybe the world will grow sick and tired of Iran's nuclear enrichment and unite behind a military strike.

Yes, the cost of waiting could be great. If Iran installs S-300s, an air strike would be quite difficult. But until Israel has the backing of the rest of the world, the cost of an aerial attack against Iran's nuclear facilities has the potential to be far greater, both for Israel and for the rest of the world.

Ryan Normandin is a member of the Class

# 'Boston Globe' Discovers 2007 MIT Project

#### Other Press Calls It 'New.' Is That Wrong?

#### Michael McGraw-Herdeg

When science reporters write about technology that isn't really new, they should say so up front.

In Sunday's Boston Globe, reporter Carolyn Y. Johnson SM'04 described an exciting project conducted by two MIT alumni who claim to be able to identify gay men based on their Facebook friends.

That work was even more exciting in Fall 2007, when the alumni were students doing a class project for Ethics and Law on the Electronic Frontier (6.805).

Johnson's article reverberated across the Internet, maybe because it involved sexuality and secrets, or maybe because it was a good read, treated its subject fairly, and captured readers' imaginations.

But the article buried "this isn't new" some 944 words in, causing a serious problem. Bloggers and news services re-reported the story without noting that the work was the computer research equivalent of a moldy loaf of bread — interesting to look at, but aging and easily replaced. Some rewrites missed the facts. A New York Daily News photo caption said "A new project at MIT claims to be able to predict sexual orientation based on cues from a person's Facebook page."

OK, Daily News caption editors, if that's

a "new project", then the following facts are also new: MIT's dean of admissions has just resigned after the shocking revelation that she lied on her resume; a group of naysayers is predicting a coming crash in the stock market, but most reasonable people think the "housing bubble" is here to stay; and a fresh-faced senator from Illinois is mulling a presidential

Non-novel stories anger experts. My space physicist friend gripes every few weeks that a newspaper has reported cool but well-understood facts about, say, the aurora as though they were a recent discovery. And have you read about the "\$150 space camera"? MIT students have been taking photos using inexpensive weather balloons for years — although it was very cool to see CNN feature one such project this fall.

Non-novel stories mislead readers. Truly great science stories aren't just fun to read: they help people understand how the latest discoveries might be used to change human life. It's not okay for news stories to gloss over

Johnson herself is a graduate of MIT's science writing program. So she's spent time with experts on the bleeding edge of technology. In light of the substantial advantages of her background, I think her article was good but not great: it hit "interesting" right on the head but missed "timely" and grazed "relevant."

I see two more problems. First, Johnson's article omitted a crucial statistic that would let us gauge its importance. And second, a startup founded six years ago has used similar tactics to improve international security. Shouldn't they have been important to this story?

First problem: the article doesn't mention the work's false positive rate. 1133 words in, we get: "Although the researchers had no way to confirm the analysis with scientific rigor, they used their private knowledge of 10 people in the network who were gay but did not declare it on their Facebook page as a simple

OK. But how many "possible gay men" did the project predict? We can't even begin to guess what percentage of the predictions were correct. We don't know whether this research is any good.

Second problem: isn't someone doing this stuff for a living? When I took this class in Fall 2007, I saw this work proposed and asked: OK, so you can speculatively identify gay people. But what useful things can you do?

Two years later, Johnson's article dodges the question: what useful things can you do? I think they're out there, but they aren't brand

Everyone knows that you can analyze networks to find hidden characteristics. Can that change the world? A company called Palantir, founded in 2004, has spent much of the last decade mining network information like Pay-Pal data to find terrorists. (See the Sept. 4, 2009 Wall Street Journal article "How Team of Geeks Cracked Spy Trade", or find out about the project the way I did — at their Career Fair booth a few years ago.)

Johnson quotes a 2009 conference paper where scientists warn: "Using friends in classifying people has to be treated with care," because the classifications can be weak. Sounds like someone ought to check this against the social-network-terrorist-sniffers whose software has, the Journal reports, "foiled a Pakistani suicide bombing plot on Western targets and discovered a spy infiltration of an allied government." What's *their* false positive rate? Do similar network analysis principles apply to Facebook friendships and PayPal transactions? How does the MIT work relate to this kind of industry work?

My uninformed guess is that the MIT work was a solid feat of engineering, likely to improve the way people do this kind of analysis. I hope they get a published paper out of it.

Science reporters should strive to represent the state of the art, not just the juiciest parts of the last few years' results. I commend Johnson for writing something that I enjoyed reading and that helped engage people in parts of an important kind of research. I just wish the news story had mentioned what was, and what wasn't, new.

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September 25, 2009 THE TECH Page 6

# Our Favorite Harvard Code Breaker Is Back

# Dan Brown Sends Robert Langdon on a Journey in 'The Lost Symbol'

#### By Emily Nardoni

The Lost Symbol Dan Brown Doubleday Books September 15, 2009 \$19.95 at MIT Coop

he famously controversial author of The Da Vinci Code has succeeded in crafting a fascinating and suspenseful adventure brimming with new secrets, new twists and turns, and a refreshingly interesting — if not far-fetched — concept. Released on Sept. 15, this newest installment, The Lost Symbol, takes the reader on a harrowing thrill ride to uncover secrets in ancient mysticism and Masonic tradition. Despite some small imperfections, it delivers with a true Dan Brown "can'tput-the-book-down" style mystery.

This time around, the novel's setting of Washington, D.C. is much closer to home but the city is so exotic and layered with symbols in Brown's beautifully crafted world that it's easy to take in stride the unbelievable events that unfold there. Brown paints the city as a glorious and mysterious labyrinth of stately, historic buildings and hidden tunnels; a city whose echoes of grandeur are superimposed

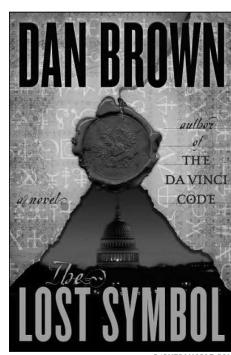
upon endless facades of masked meaning and ancient symbology. One of Brown's strengths as a writer is his ability to recreate a world evervone thinks they know into one that keeps you guessing. In this case, he brings D.C. to life in an utterly elegant and unique way, providing a fitting backdrop for the dramatic events to follow.

It's not hard to go a hundred pages without putting the book down.

And the drama is relentlessly page-turning — from Masonic death rituals and brutal screwdriver murders to waterboarding, it's not hard to go a hundred pages without putting the book down. The villain behind the chaos is both brutal and sinister, and his plot to uncover a secret guarded among the highest echelons of Masonry results in a melange of blood, codebreaking, research into ancient ideologies, and late-night CIA chases. In one particularly hairraising scene, a principal character, is locked alone in a large, dark space with his antagonist. Drawing the same chills as The Silence of the Lamb's famous pitch-black climax between Hannibal Lecter and Clarice, the resulting blind game of cat and mouse is alarmingly heart-pounding.

And yes, there are minor flaws: The conclusion is not as profound as the one in The Da Vinci Code, and at some points I found myself slightly perturbed by one thing or another, but none of that detracts from the enjoyment I found in this novel. Brown's back-and-forth writing style of switching between plot lines captivates the reader for large sections at a time. Even a snag in one plot strand is quickly resolved to reveal a more fluid sub-plot lying underneath.

But the most endearing element of Brown's carefully crafted story is main character Robert Langdon's rich knowledge of symbology and his mastery of uncovering secrets. The reader sympathizes with Langdon, who himself is (thankfully) incredulous of many of the lessbelievable clues he finds, making the thrill of watching him progress through the symbols and riddles all the more real. With Langdon at its helm, The Lost Symbol delivers, as a oneof-a-kind intellectual and literal adventure that is more than worthy of any fun-loving reader's attention.



The Lost Symbol is Dan Brown's new conspiracy thriller set in Washington, D.C.

#### **TELEVESION REVIEW**

# For the High-Schooler Inside

'Glee' is a Hit, No Matter What Clique You're In

#### By Emily Nardoni

Glee Pilot Season Wednesdays at 9 on Fox

mantras? Check. Take all of the most extreme high school stereotypes, wrap them up in the typical underdog power story and blend them with the flashy exuberance of high school show choir. In just about every case, the result would be a cliched and excessive

nobby cheerleaders? Check. Corny

And yet somehow, Glee proves otherwise. It's nowhere close; embedded in Glee is heart, soul, and a catchy feel-good vibe that, at the end of the hour, leaves the viewer feeling perked up and begging for more.

Admittedly, I was among those that saw snippets of advertisements here and there for the new Fox series and wondered what the heck its producers could possibly be thinking. Yes, there are evil cheerleaders, outsiders coming together under the not-so-proud banner of show choir, and a Spanish teacher turned singing coach on a quest for self-discovery. Every over-the-top element of Glee wears it cheesiness with in-your-face dignity, and it works. The characters are delightful, the conflicts both hilarious and gut-wrenching, and the songs incredibly entertaining.



The new sitcom Glee follows the story of a high school show choir club.

At the heart of the show is Glee club, whose anticipated band of misfit members comprise the lowest rung of the social ladder the "sub-basement" as the malicious cheer coach, played excellently by Jane Lynch, calls

it. But these characters are so incredibly fun to watch and you'll immediately find yourself forgiving their stereotypes and succumbing to their fears, triumphs, and heartwarming relationships with each other. One of the show's

driving forces is the audience's emotional investment in the characters, all of whom are acted out brilliantly. From the outwardly selfconfident but bullied Rachel Berry (played by Lea Michele), to the obsessively sanitary and heartbreakingly lonely Emma Pillsbury (Jayma Mays), everyone is an impression of someone we knew in high school (or perhaps ourselves). The characters are all hilariously personality-rich, yet endearing in a very real

The other of Glee's driving forces is the sheer fun of its conflicts, personality clashes, and musical numbers. These kids can sing, and the show includes a light-hearted medley of musical arrangements ranging from the awe-inspiring "Don't Stop Believing" to Kanye West's "Gold Digger." You don't have to be a choir kid to love Berry's emotionally charged Les Miserables solo, or fellow Glee member Mercedes' (played by Amber Riley) sassy "Bust Your Windows."

Like the characters it offers, Glee isn't a one-demographic show. Rather, it reaches out to those who can laugh at the stereotypical ways we treat each other, overcome the idyllic nature of our dreams, and recognize the underdog in themselves and in turn aspire for more than we often settle for ourselves. Perhaps all of us ought to turn up the a cappella soundtrack of our own lives once in a while and let a little extra glee into our hearts.

#### **FXHIRIT RFVIFW**

# 'Acting Out' Is Raw and Humanizing

# Videos that Probe and Challenge the Human Condition

#### By Jenny Xie

Acting Out Until October 18 Institute of Contemporary Art Admission Free with MIT ID

ideo has become a trendy form of art. For one, seemingly ridiculous You-Tube productions can silently generate millions of views, transforming the meaning of "expression" and "reality" along the way. And now, five artists from around the world confront this hot new medium by using it as an apparatus to study human interactions and cultural inclinations. The product of their combined efforts is Acting Out, a collection of social experiments captured on video and filtered through an artistic lens. It's now playing on the fourth floor of Boston's Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA).

For each video in Acting Out, the artists gathered real people to participate in a specific activity; what you see is what unfolded before the camera. Four of the five videos have their own viewing rooms: dark, bare cubicles with nothing but the video projected on a wall and the occasional pillow and bench. This sacred ambience naturally channels audience reflection.

While the individual works vary in theme and technique, each artist manages to be uniquely provocative. Take Johanna Billing's Magical World (2005): The video captures a group of Croatian children, assembled to learn an old American song, "Magical World." This portrait of uncertainty towards westernization is composed of one child's wary glance, another's anxious lip biting, and the lead singer's accented but persevering English.

The artist also alternates images of the melancholic rehearsal room with those of this neo-independent country. Suddenly, the wall is flooded with sights of worn-out infrastructure, outdated cars, and humble street corners. With

that, Billing leaves you pondering about developing nations' attitude towards growth and Western ideals. Phil Collins' he who laughs last laughs longest (2006) simulates the television camera's power to manipulate people's natural expressions. Here, Collins takes a familiar idea — the dehumanizing effect of televised competitions — and ironically uses a fake setup to prove a symptom of reality. Other works in the exhibition play with language, sound, texture, and space; and explore the blind's sensations, the brutal game of conquest, and the perennial battle between "them" and "us." It's not an easy dish to digest.

Acting Out is one of a kind. It's dynamic with videos ranging in length from 7 to 27 minutes, moods ranging from mellow to disturbing, and the soundtrack flowing from despondent instrumentals to its total absence save for honest voices. Every work is raw; penetrating details are in-your-face. The videos have no clear beginning or ending — they loop as if everything is just a slice of regular life.

In this perpetual age of reality TV, "real" has become relative. These "social experiments" are staged, but not scripted, and exactly how real these videos are is hard to say. But as in any experiment, the art comes from the design. And the works in Acting Out are refreshing designs for platforms that magnify the parts of society easily neglected or misunderstood. The question of whether every element is completely natural does not undermine the works' bursting liveliness of

Acting Out: Social Experiments in Video is definitely worth a trip to the ICA. Even if all the heart-racing themes presented speak nothing to you as of yet, go just to see how far people have pushed the boundaries of art. If you are an MIT affiliate, a valid ID gets you in free, while everyone else gets in free every Thursday 5-9 p.m. Acting Out will be showing until October 18.

**CD REVIEW** 

# From Harpsichord to Piano

#### Perahia's 'Partitas' Become the New Standard

By Sudeep Agarwala

Murray Perahia Bach Partitas 1, 5 and 6 Sony Classical Released August 31, 2009

f the three sets of keyboard pieces J.S. Bach published between 1715 and 1730, the Partitas are, by far, the

They're interesting works and they show Bach's development as a keyboard composer and a teacher of the instrument. The earliest of the three, the English Suites (BWV 806-811 written between — we think — 1715 and 1722) are predictable: an imitative Prelude, followed by a stoic *Allemande*, a playful *Cou*rante, an erotic Sarabande, a non-standard fifth movement, and a concluding Gigue. The second of the three, the French Suites (BWV 812-817), written between 1722 and 1725, starts to play games. Bach sometimes leaves out the *Prelude*, often intersperses multiple dance movements between the Sarabande, and, sometimes, even forgets the Gigue movement at the end of the work.

But it's in the Partitas, the latest of the works (written between 1726 and 1730 -BWV 825-830) that Bach introduces the oddest birds of his trade. Fugal Preludes

are exchanged for more dramatic Sinfonias, Overtures or Fantasias. Certainly, a core structure of Allemande, Courante, Sarabande, and Gigue still exists, but the forms that are added in between are vast and varied in their structures and their origins, idiosyncrasies that make the works all the more endearing. The pieces display Bach as the experimentalist. Voicings in these works are confused. interweaving subjects more fluidly than the previous works. Other pieces brazenly foreshadow (or, at the very least, provide some sort of impetus for) Schoenberg-ian twelvetone, gleefully riffing on a fugal subject, inverting, retrograde inverting and augmenting the theme to bare recognition.

And it's these pieces that Murray Perahia recently finished recording, releasing Partitas 2, 3 and 4 in March 2008, and recently releasing the complementary three at the end of August.

It's a brazen task. Recording the Partitas, including the other keyboard sets, has been the stuff of legend, a practice started before Perahia was even born by almost every major pianist of the twentieth century; Wanda Landowska and Rudolf Serkin were among the first to record the pieces on harpsichord and piano, respectively, at the turn of the century. Shortly after, Glenn Gould made two monumental recordings of the works (twice),

followed in close succession by Martha Argerich, András Schiff, Angela Hewitt, and a plethora of others.

It's a wonder it took Perahia, so famous for his interpretation and performance of Bach, so long to release his recording of

Each of these recordings are different from each other depending on changes on scholarship and performance practice as it evolved over this past century, not to mention personal interpretation by each of the giants of the in-

Perahia's recording finds its own voice among these as a comfortable traversal of the harrowing works on an instrument that the performer understands intimately. Each work manages elegance without the precious cloy of a pianist attempting to recreate the touch of a harpsichord on the modern instrument.

This isn't to say that works are played anachronistically or messily; the opposite: Perahia approaches Bach asking how the composer would have viewed the Partitas on the modern piano. Symphonic passages are often tastefully muted, preferring the reserved sound world of the harpsichord to exploiting the true orchestral sensibility of the modern

That said, Perahia doesn't shy away from crescendos, phrasing, or modern touches that would have been impossible on the harpsichord. Where other recordings race through the dances in an attempt to enhance the effect of Bach's counterpoint, Perahia approaches these works at a saunter, exploiting the multiple dynamic levels of the piano to accentuate voicings or highlight central motives. While certain passages tend toward rhythmic instability or inaccuracy, it's a spectacle to hear Perahia's impeccable articulation; scales and runs are played with a precision and clarity that rival machines in technique and vocalists in their melodic phrasing.

It's an interesting conversation that Perahia engages in these recordings, translating Bach for the modern piano, as opposed to translating Bach's harpsichord to the modern instrument. Although this disc is another addition to the ever-growing number of important and influential recordings that have accumulated over the past century, it's difficult not to hear something special in Perahia's rendition.

Certainly, Perahia's technical abilities alone merit this recording of the Partitas earning its rightful place as one of the great recordings of the work. But the fact that it is so thoughtfully presented, so carefully crafted by a musician so informed and concerned with the original intent of the composer and the nuance of the instrument makes this recording one of the standards of the genre.

#### **MOVIE REVIEW**

# Brazilian Film an Ode to the Lonely

# Equally Rich with Melancholy and Beauty

By Samuel Markson

O Signo da Cidade Directed by Carlos Alberto Riccelli Written by Bruna Lombardi Produced by Carlos Alberto Riccelli and Bruna Lombardi Starring Bruna Lombardi, Malvino Salvador 2008 Release (Brazil)

herever you are, look to the sky and your star will guide you where you need to go... whatever happens or comes your way, you have your star to thank, more than you know."

I take a seat near the front, my head at around the height of the Hebrew subtitles on the screen (just below the English ones) at the cinema in Haifa, Israel.

I soon meet Teca (Bruna Lombardi), astrologist and radio show host in São Paulo. Brazil — South's America's largest city, and the world's seventh. She and São Paulo's 18 million residents are the subject of O Signo da Cidade. The script, brilliantly written by Lombardi, is a study in love, beauty, pain, and the need for human connection.

Teca's life is complicated by her terminally ill father, Anibal (Juca de Oliveira), who left her mother when she was eleven. In parallel, Teca's assistant Bio is struggling with his mother, who is oblivious of his homosexual relationship with Josialdo (Sidney Santiago), a flamboyant transvestite. Meanwhile, Teca's life becomes intertwined with a host of others: Teca's new neighbor Gil (Malvino Salvador), a down-to-earth man stuck in a troubled marriage with the neurotic and drug-addicted Lydia (Denise Fraga); Luis (Thiago Pinheiro), an angsty client of Teca who is unable to make human connection and cope with his loneliness; Julia (Lais Marques), Luis' girlfriend who is depressed, pregnant, and addicted to self-mutilation; and Sombra (Luis Miranda), a male nurse and a silent healer in the city.

In the course of the film, the various characters who interact with Teca fall in love, die, are lost, and are found. Pieces fall, like dominoes, revealing not a cosmic pattern, but a set of individual yet interconnected fates. The film reveals the microrelationships that are made and lost constantly in the living, breathing city. Beauty in this film is revealed both in creation

and destruction, and in tiny, unnoticed, lonely lives that live and breathe alone, aimlessly, and yet passionately.

The stars, fickle, are willing to save some: Josialdo, after being brutally beaten and set on fire for being a transvestite, is saved by a rainstorm. But they are just as willing to condemn others: The saintly Sombra is killed by a stray

The script, written by Lombardi, is lined with subplot within subplot, each delicate, cold, melancholy, beautiful: a tribute to the common man in an unfamiliar world. Lombardi brings out as much beauty in death as in life, as much emphasis on our human power as in our helplessness. Language flows as much through words as through the scenes and colors of São Paulo. It has a restrained grace — cold, yearning, alive, as a beautiful yet distant stranger.

Which it is, to all of us on the other side of the fourth wall. A friend and I seem to be the only ones under thirty years old; the rest are culturally-aware middle-aged Israelis. Together, we're about as far from the Brazilians depicted (geographically, emotionally...) as

But that gap is bridged, and that's the point:

the power of total strangers to impact our lives. Lombardi's acting is brilliant, expressive,

and beautiful. She is human: powerful individually, but intense when interacting with the other actors. Malvino Salvador plays off her nicely, introduces a rare note of stability amongst the desperate, confused states of the rest of the cast. Together, they speak a fourth language: that of expression and unspoken meaning. Lombardi's character is a duality — a practitioner and patient of Fate. She shows it in brief glimpses that another actor might unknowingly fumble through. She is both a foil and a lead, singlehandedly creating a complex web of feelings and faces, three-dimensional, like life.

O Signo da Cidade is a rare film: It is a simple study of simple people, done very well. It is a modern-day ode to the common man, a case study of the lonely majority, of the way we interact, love, hate, rise, fall, as we desperately seek destruction and salvation. It speaks to everyone who's stared at a curious stranger. and wondered what their story was, to anyone who's been changed by a small conversation. It's a small reminder — a conversation — that sometimes there is a small redemption for each

#### join@tech.mit.edu

;	Solution to Crossword													
_	from page 9													
Α	R	Т	S		l	s	L	E	Т		М	Е	G	Α
G	Α	R	Υ		┙	Н	Α	s	Α		Α	Х	Е	Г
0	Z	0	N	Ε	L	Α	Y	Ε	R		R	Α	N	Т
G	Ε	М		s	s	W				Α	С	С	R	Α
		В	U	Т	Α	N	Ε	L	Ι	G	Н	Т	Е	R
Н	0	0	R	A	Y		R	Т	C	Α				
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T	E	S	T		s	0	Α	R	s		Α	s	Α	Р

#### **Solution to Sudoku**

from page 10								
9	2	7	3	8	1	4	5	6
8	6	5	7	9	4	1	3	2
1	3	4	2	6	5	9	8	7
6	9	8	5	7	2	3	4	1
5	4	2	1	3	9	7	6	8
3	7	1	6	4	8	5	2	9
2	1	6	9	5	3	8	7	4
4	5	9	8	2	7	6	1	3
7	8	3	4	1	6	2	9	5

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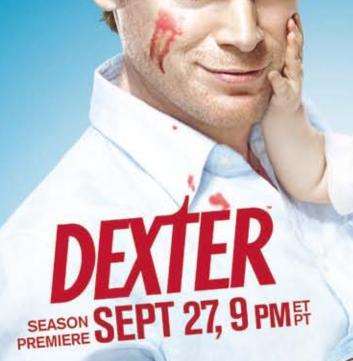
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**September** 25, 2009













The **Tech** 







**Page** 











**Steal My Comic** 

by Michael Ciuffo





# Help Desk

by Michael Benitez



# Crossword Puzz Solution, page 7

#### **ACROSS**

- 1 Traveler's computer 7 Great merriment
- 11 Clairvoyance, e.g.
- 14 Diagonally
- 15 Heavenly glo
- 16 TiVo alternative
- 17 Down on one's luck
- 19 Its members often get motel discounts:
- 20 Kidney-related
- 21 Word on a store sign that's flipped daily
- 22 Not an attractive fruit
- 23 Pen fluids

Abbr.

- 24 Bride's title
- 25 High-five sounds 26 Mountain curve
- 27 "We to please"
- 28 Disc thrown in the game of Ultimate
- 30 RR depot
- 31 Benefactors
- 32 Bid more
- 34 Ladies' man
- 36 Warm lining
- 39 Use the oars
- 37 Intimidate 38 The whole enchilada
- 9 Emerald Isle 42 Gourmet mushroom 10 Chow down

- 43 Suffix with meth- or eth-
- 44 Soprano Te Kanawa
- 45 Needles partner

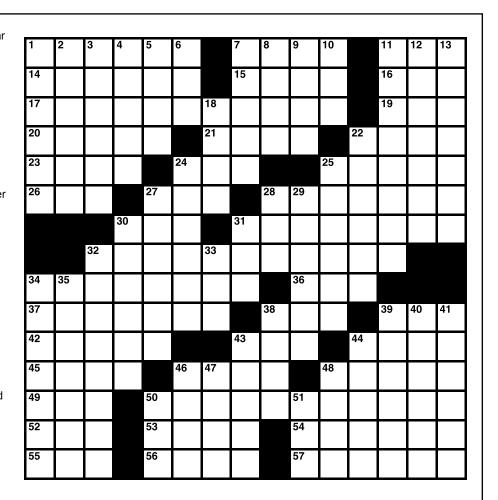
46 Out of work

- 48 Add nen to with
- 49 Toothpaste raters' org. 50 Jackie Gleason's
- epitaph 52 Dream indication
- 53 Swindler's specialty
- 54 Londoner, e.g.
- 55 Byron's "before"
- 56 Send to the canvas
- 57 Big name in small planes

#### **DOWN**

- 1 Hugh who plays House on "House"
- 2 Quaking trees
- 3 Political platform parts
- 4 Forum garments
- 5 Iridescent gemstone 6 Canada's smallest
- prov. 7 Struggles to catch one's breath
- 8 Mandolin relative

- 11 "Green Acres" costar
- 12 Ticket profiteer
- 13 Speaks highly of
- 18 Average
- 22 Northern Ireland province
- 24 Bait fish 25 Immoral
- 27 Lacking a key, in music
- 28 To and 29 Ticket in a fund-raiser
- 30 Bowlers' pickups
- 31 Fed. purchasing
- group
- 32 Online identity 33 First lady?
- 34 Note the similarities and differences of
- 35 Nonconfron-tational one
- 38 Once again
- 39 Metal fasteners
- 40 Eugene's state
- 41 Ryder of film 43 Crockett's last stand
- 44 Fuzzy fruits 46 Ancient Peruvian
- 47 June 6, 1944
- 48 Bard's instrument
- 50 Want to know
- 51 "Invasion" network



# Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

# **Dilbert**® by Scott Adams

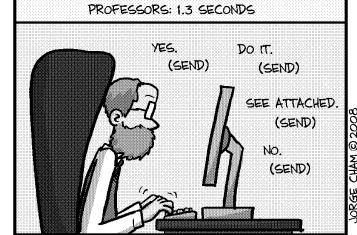
# Sudoku

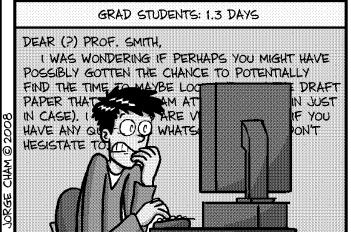
Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9. Solution on page 7.

	2	7	3	8		4		
				9				2
1					5		8	
6		8				3	4	
	4						6	
	7	1				5		9
	1		9					4
4				2				
		3		1	6	2	9	

#### **AVERAGE TIME SPENT COMPOSING ONE E-MAIL**







September 25, 2009 THE TECH Page 11

# Construction in Infinite Will Result in Spacious Intersection with Bldg. 4

**Construction,** from Page 1

At least one person seems to have found the construction to be a bit more irritating: Over the summer, someone added an "E" to a poster on the construction site marking the future site of "LAM," making the sign read "LAME."

Project manager Varin Ang said MIT Facilities was trying to keep noise levels to a minimum during construction hours, from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m.: "We don't want to interrupt a lot of activities during the day," he said. "Classes start around 9, so we have from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. to do a lot of work, and we try to make less noise during the day." No drilling or hammering takes place after 9 a.m.

When construction finishes, the intersection on the Infinite with Building 4 will be roomier, Ang said, "so that you don't have to be standing in the corridor to look into the lab."

## Class of 1954 Remembers Legal Sea Foods Hostess's Superior Service

McAllister, from Page 1

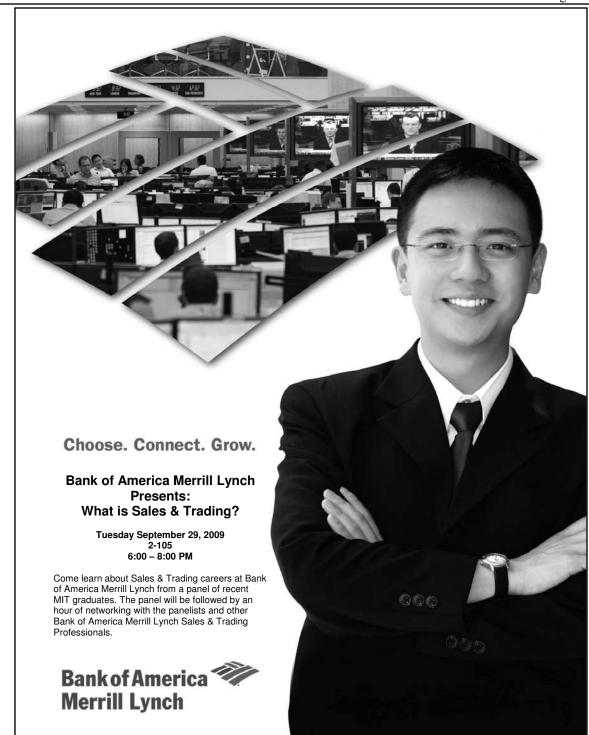
McAllister oversaw the entire operations of the restaurant, ensuring everything ran smoothly and efficiently, while simultaneously setting the example for hospitality and friendliness. Roger Barkowitz, president of the Kendall Square restaurant, described her as the "backbone" of Legal Sea Foods' culture and operation.

However, the strongest memories of Anna were not of what she contributed behind the scenes, but how she treated her customers: Paul E. Gray '54, Course 6 professor and MIT president emeritus, spoke about the welcoming feeling Anna created for MIT community members who patronized the restaurant: "You'd see groups of grad students and their professors, and there were often 40 or 50 faculty just in groups of two or three ... and when you walked in the door, she greeted you as if to her own home. She made this [Legal Sea Foods] into an extended living room."

Anna knew everyone who frequented the restaurant: "When you walked in," Joseph P. Blake '54 said, "no matter how busy, she'd spot you. 'Don't you think of leaving, love,' she'd say. 'We'll get a table for you in just a minute. Just grab a seat.' That was the word she always used: 'love.' It's what everyone was to her, and what she'll always be to us."

Today, diners at the Kendall Square Legal Sea Foods can view the memorial plaque donated by the MIT Class of 1954 and eat "Anna's baked scarp," a newly-renamed dish still prepared according to the recipe McAllister created.

—Sam Range



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THE TECH September 25, 2009





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Ford The Boston Globe

# A Nuclear Advisory **Panel Now Focusing** On Waste Recycling

By Matthew L. Wald

THE NEW YORK TIMES

OXON HILL, MD. With a federal plan to handle nuclear waste in deadlocked disarray, an advisory panel that has spent 20 years studying a proposed repository at Yucca Mountain turned Wednesday to discussing ways of reusing the

But the meeting of the panel, the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board, made evident that such reuse was uncertain, along with the future of Yucca Mountain, in Nevada, about 100 miles from Las Vegas.

The board heard presentations from three major nuclear companies on strategies for sorting out the components of nuclear waste: burying some, recovering others for use as fuel and putting some in reactors to be transformed into materials that are easier to handle.

But developing such plans would take decades, experts said, and deciding which path to follow would depend in part on the kind of rock chosen for burial.

Yucca Mountain, a ridge of volcanic rock, has been the main focus of a federal program that has spent \$10.4 billion seeking a repository for

Opposition to such a repository has been fierce in Nevada, and President Barack Obama spoke out against the project during his campaign. In February, he released a proposed budget cutting off most of the money for Yucca Mountain and promised to appoint a commission to look into alternatives.

But even that has been delayed. B. John Garrick, the chairman of the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board, established by Congress in 1987, said the White House had announced plans for a panel to review NASA about the same time it pledged to form the blue-ribbon commission on nuclear waste. The space flight board has already been appointed, done its work and announced its findings, he said.

"Anything nuclear is just very difficult, it seems," Garrick said.

Some experts on the nuclear industry have speculated that elected officials might prefer a report that comes after the midterm elections in 2010, because the commission could recommend proceeding with Yucca

Meanwhile, the government is continuing to pursue an operating license for Yucca, although the proposed financing for that work was slashed at the behest of the Senate majority leader, Harry Reid of Nevada, a strong opponent of the project. Reid wants limited financing for the federal fiscal year beginning Oct. 1 and none at all for the year after that.

Apart from disagreement about how and where the nation's nuclear waste should be disposed of, the ba- Ewing said.

sic financing for the program is now in question.

In the early 1980s, the federal government signed contracts with all the nuclear utilities, agreeing to have the Energy Department begin taking the waste in 1998 with the utilities paying a tenth of a cent per kilowatthour made in their nuclear reactors.

But without Yucca Mountain, the government is unlikely to start taking the waste for many years, and in July, some utilities told the government they want to stop paying. Some state utility regulators sided with the

The nuclear waste fund now amounts to about \$22 billion, and some nuclear companies want that money diverted to research on new technologies for processing waste.

Christopher Kouts, acting director of the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management at the Energy Department, said the program had cut its staff by 2,000 people over 18 months and had 700 remaining, some of whom are now looking for more secure jobs.

While his office is continuing to seek a license for Yucca from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, he said, it may not have enough staff members to answer all the commission's questions, he said.

That leaves unclear whether the mountain's suitability as a waste repository will ever be determined.

The Technical Review Board, which holds public meetings about three times a year, on Wednesday therefore focused on alternative strategies like building a new class of reactors that could accept the "spent" fuel from existing reactors, deriving some energy from the wastes and breaking down the most difficult, long-lived materials into elements that are easier to handle.

But the basic premise of reuse is open to question, said Ernest J. Moniz, a professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a former deputy secretary of energy.

He told the group that most of the thinking on reusing the fuel dated from decades ago, when uranium was thought to be scarce. But now, "roughly speaking, we've got uranium coming out of our ears, for a long, long time," he said.

Rodney Ewing, a professor of geology at the University of Michigan, said that the nuclear waste problem should be resolved promptly so the industry could play a role in fighting global warming, but that the selection process should be scientific and not political like the decision on Yucca.

While Yucca Mountain is isolated and in a desert, experts say chemical conditions there and water flows present major problems.

"We've now demonstrated that there's no straightforward process by which these decisions will be made,"



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# Varsity-Turned-Club Sports Face | Drop from A Variety of Changes, Adjustments | Economic

Sports, from Page 1

port a coach, much less than the salaries the coaches were making when the sport had varsity status.

As a result, some sports, including men's gymnastics and golf, will not have coaching and will be student-run. Meanwhile, men's ice hockey coach Mark O'Meara has decided to stick with the team despite the lack of salary.

Other changes vary from sport to sport, too.

Gymnasts can no longer practice whenever they want, said team member Garrett A. Hemann '11. As a club sport, men's gymnastics will have restricted time to access to their gym facility. And, DAPER is now requiring that a trained staff member be present when the gymnasts practice. "This year," Hemann said, "we will only be able to practice about

eight hours a week. Last year, we did

Last year, the estimated total golf budget was \$30,000, according to team member Nicholas C. Swenson '12, also last year's New England Collegiate Conference rookie of the year. As a consequence of losing varsity status, teams like golf will have to survive on a fraction of the budget that they used to receive.

Pistol, on the other hand, will continue to have the same access to the range as before, said team member Andrew Sugaya '11. The club will also compete in the same tournaments against the same competition as last year.

Sugaya said that pistol is currently focusing on getting money from sponsors. The club currently has 22 members, and will charge an estimated \$150 membership fee to cover expenses for the fall.

William Near G of the men's hockey team said that the men's and women's hockey clubs will share the ice rink. Under the current plan, both clubs will have the rink for 2 hours each day, which is about the same as last year. Near also said that the club will have access to all of the equipment and jerseys that they used last year.

The women's ice hockey team faces a different situation than all other cut varsity teams because there already exists a women's ice hockey club sport. Women's club team captain Anjuli Appapillai G said that some members of the women's varsity team expressed interest in playing for the club. Appapillai also said that the club's roster of 40 players would be sufficient to include every member of the women's varsity team.

Shreyes Seshasai contributed reporting to this article.

# Drop from Economic Crisis Was First Since 2002

**Endowment,** from Page 1

quarter of the GIB comes from tu-

In a September 16 Letter to the Community, Hockfield thanked the MITIMCo "for their steady, disciplined work," but also stressed the need for an additional \$60 to \$70 million in budget cuts over the next two years. Total spending for MIT's operations was \$518 million in the 2009 fiscal year.

The last time MIT's endowment reported a drop in funds was in 2002 due to nationwide economic distress, when it fell by \$1 billion to \$5.53 billion. That drop in the endowment was also followed by a series of budget cuts.

With financial reports rolling out at the end of this fiscal year, universities across the nation are also reporting significant endowment losses. Harvard's investments fell 27.3 percent and donations fell 30 percent, slashing its endowment by \$10.9 billion, from \$36.9 billion to \$26.0 billion. Yale suffered similar losses, with a 30 percent drop in endowment from \$22.9 billion to \$16 billion.

All five universities with larger endowments than MIT — Harvard, Yale, Stanford, Princeton, and the University of Texas — reported losses.

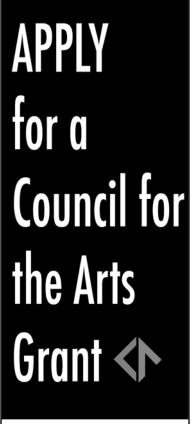
The MITIMCo's annual return for the past decade now stands at 9.3 percent, down from 13.2 percent last year

MITIMCo is responsible for MIT's investments, operating funds, and retirement plans. A full report on MIT's finances will be available October 2.

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Zara K. Karuman '13 performs a handstand on the uneven bars as her teammates look on during gymnastics practice on Thursday in DuPont. Due to budget cuts, the gymnastics team lost its varsity status at the end of last academic year and is now a club sport.

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# **ONGRATULATIONS**

# DEF TUV TUV OPER OPER DEF TUV TUV OPER DEF TUV T

Page 14 THE TECH September 25, 2009

# MIT Post Office Remains on Closure List

Post Office, from Page 1

then be forwarded to USPS headquarters for review and official approval

Tarmey said that current employees of the MIT office would be relocated to other branches in or near Cambridge.

In a letter provided to current MIT post office box holders, Lydon wrote that current users of the MIT Post Office's mailboxes would have the option to either transfer their boxes to the Kendall Square USPS station, located 0.8 miles away from the MIT Post Office, or change to residential carrier delivery. Parcel and signature item pickup would also be moved to the Kendall location.

Attached to the letter was a survey for MIT post office customers to complete and submit to Tarmey by today. Tarmey said that the survey would be used to evaluate how often customers utilize services like stamp purchase and package delivery and would be reviewed in the course of the closure decision.

Tarmey said that a recent Government Accountability Office (GAO)

"I would like nothing better

than to tell you that

the Postal Service is a healthy,

thriving agency from a financial

viewpoint, but it would be

irresponsible to do so."

—Dennis P. Tarmey, USPS

ment Accountability report listed the USPS as a "high risk" organization which could lose \$7 billion this year and urged that the USPS restructure itself, in part by consolidating operations.

Tarmey said that this was the first time in the

history of the USPS that official consolidations and closings have been considered, but the USPS's High Risk status necessitated the need for action.

"I would like nothing better than to tell you that the Postal Service is a healthy, thriving agency from a financial viewpoint, but it would be irresponsible to do so," he said.

Tarmey said that the USPS will monitor the situation at the Kendall station if the MIT station is closed, and will make changes to the operation of the office if the increased mail volume from MIT's closure deems it necessary.

The Boston Metro Area American Postal Workers Union (APWU) has been campaigning since November of last year against post office closures and claims that the MIT post office has an estimated revenue of \$371,000 a year and expenses of \$169,875 a year, turning a profit of approximately \$201,000 a year, a number cited by the union in a campaign to save the branch. USPS staff declined to comment on the profitability of the MIT post office. According to the USPS website, the MIT post office has a walk-in revenue of \$386,000.

Tarmey said that the USPS evaluates not just the performance of individual branches but all operations in an area in its restructuring decisions: "Each post office is not an independent financial entity and no post of-

fice operates in a vacuum," Tarmey said.

For the past week, *Tech* chairman Austin Chu G and Mitchell E. Berger '03 have been organizing an MIT effort against the closing. Chu and Berger have

distributed informational flyers, contacted area representatives in Congress, and contacted MIT administration to raise awareness of the proposed closure.

"We've been trying to coordinate an effort to contact sources and people who may bring more pressure to the USPS than individual students or individuals in the community

might," Chu said.

Their effort is independent of the APWU's.

Berger expressed concern that the USPS was not effectively communicating the closure of the station to those who were not boxholders:

"This process seemed to be moving along quietly, and that was one of the things that seemed wrong," he said.

"We've certainly raised awareness of the issue. A lot of people are talking about it." he said.

Both Chu and Berger, who is a member of the Lecture Series Committee, said it is much more convenient for student groups to have post office boxes housed in W20 than to rely on interdepartmental mail to deliver mail.

Kirk D. Kolenbrander, Vice President for Institute Affairs and Secretary of the Corporation, said that the MIT administration is aware of the community's concern. Kolenbrander said that the administration is investigating how MIT can interface in the decision-making process.

Kolenbrander said that MIT's communications and government relations offices are looking into the steps that MIT can take to act against the closure of the post office.

"I think every one of us in the MIT community understands the importance that the post office in W20 provides. It's a marvelous resource," he said.

"We take it as a fairly strong fact that the people of this community want this post office to exist."

Even if the MIT post office closes, Tarmey said that the USPS could

continue to provide adequate mail service in Cambridge. The Central and Kendall Square post offices are

"As far as I view things,

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a service why you would close

the office."

—Bob Dempsey, APWU

both less than one mile away from the MIT post of-fice.

Bob Dempsey, Vice President of the APWU, sees things differently: "As far as I view things, the USPS is supposed to be a service. This is the part that's

confusing to me — I don't understand if you're in business to provide a service why you would close the office," he said.

Dempsey said that the closure of university post offices is particularly inconvenient for students since most don't own cars and cannot drive to the nearest post office.

Bobby White, Central Area Vice President of the Boston Area APWU, said that university post offices provide an inexpensive and convenient way for students to send packages not provided with other services.

And, referring to the \$201,000 profit figure the APWU places on the MIT post office, White said, "If I was running a business, I'd want to have a hundred of these."

Dempsey said that it remains to be seen if his and the APWU's efforts to fight against closures have been effective, but that he has not seen the USPS "back off" on any plans.

He said that, although city hall meetings in the area were being organized, it was unlikely that they would occur before the USPS's decision

Regardless, White said that the APWU would continue to resist the closures until they were official.

"Once the service is gone, it's not coming back," he said.

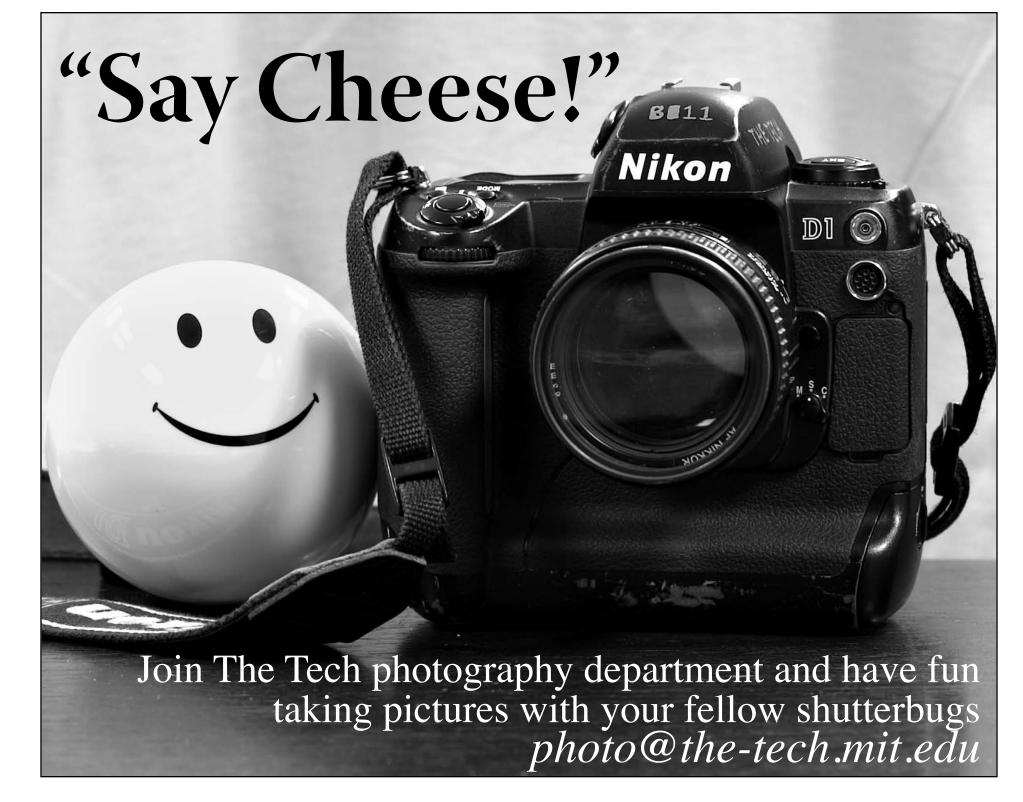
# New Food Facilities Planned For Koch Institute

Dining, from Page 1

when the buildings do, but that construction projects may run over deadline. According to the MIT Facilities website, the new Sloan Building, E62, will be suitable for occupancy before the fall term of 2010, and the Koch Institute in the winter of 2010-2011

Food service providers have not been chosen for either site. However, E62 is being constructed with facilities to outfit a food court featuring numerous stations, including a soup and salad bar, breakfast grill, stir-fry range, two sandwich lines, and prepared "grab-and-go" options. Adjacent to the food court will be a dining room that seats 200. A private "executive dining room" and buffet will also open in E62, but will not be accessible to students. When the new locations open, the Refresher Course Café in E52 and the Bio Café in Building 58 will

Café Spice's updated menu will feature kathi rolls, a type of Indian wrap, and new main dishes. Café Spice received approval from Campus Dining for its new menu offerings and pricing. According to Berlin, the restaurant was temporarily closed in May by its parent company, which thought that menu options had remained static for too long. The parent company will now run the restaurant directly instead of licensing it out



**Sports Shorts,** from Page 16

Clark, she registered 11 kills on 19-errorless attempts for a .579 hitting percentage, five digs, four aces, and three blocks in a 3-0 decision. In Saturday's sweep of Smith, Schulte posted 11 kills, a .625 hitting performance, five digs, three aces, and two blocks. She finished the week with 22 kills, 10 digs, seven aces, and five blocks.

Kuo, a freshman on the women's soccer team, had two goals and three assists in MIT's 5-0 victory over UMass Dartmouth, her first collegiate start. Kuo's seven points are the most scored in a single game by an MIT player since the 2007 season. In MIT's only game this week, Kuo helped the Engineers improve their record to 3-2 and extend their winning streak to three. With four goals and three assists, Kuo now leads the Engineers with 11 points on the season.

Finally, Hansen was selected as the Women's Tennis Singles Player of the Week after posting 2-1 record at this weekend's ITA Women's New England Regional Championship. Last year's runner-up, Hansen won her first two matches in straight sets over opponents from Middlebury and Smith. In the third round, Hansen won the first set over Williams' Kristin Alotta but Alotta, who would advance to win the individual title, rallied to win [2-6, 6-0 (10-8)]. Hasen's singles record improved to 3-1 on the season.

-DAPER Staff

## **MIT Tops Springfield**; May Records 1000th Kill

With a 25-20, 25-22, 22-25, 25-22 decision, the MIT women's volleyball team topped previously undefeated Springfield College in a New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) contest on Tuesday night. Senior Alexandra T. May recorded a matchhigh 19 kills for the Engineers (9-2, 3-0 NEWMAC) to become the eighth player in the program's history to surpass the 1,000-kill mark.

In the opening frame, MIT established an 8-4 lead which was quickly erased by five straight point by the Pride (9-1, 1-1 NEWMAC). Each side exchanged points until a service error and a pair of aces by Catherine Melnikow '09 put the Cardinal and Gray ahead, 13-11. Springfield responded with a 7-2 spurt, but the Engineers rallied, capturing 10 out of the last 12 points to close out the set. May was a factor in the final four points as she collaborated with Barden E. Cleeland '10 for a block before earning three straight kills.

With the second stanza knotted at six, Springfield slowly created a 16-8 advantage. MIT battled back as it mounted a 17-6 run to claim the second set. Jennifer Li '11 gave the Engineers their first lead of the set at 20-19 before striking the game-winning hit.

The Pride raced out to a 5-1 lead in the third set, but MIT chipped away and eventually evened the frame at nine. Each side picked up four points until a hitting error shifted the momentum to Springfield as it inched out to a 21-17 advantage. A kill by Lauren Torvi gave the Pride set point, but a kill by May coupled with a Springfield hitting error brought the Engineers within two (24-22). Hopes of maintaining the late rally were thwarted by an MIT miscue.

In the final frame Springfield jumped out to a 6-1 advantage and went on to hold a 12-7 lead. The Engineers responded with a 9-2 spurt but a pair of miscues put the Pride up, 17-16. MIT bounced back by scoring five of the next six points for a slim 21-18 edge. Both sides exchanged points to close out the contest.

Cleeland posted 11 kills and four blocks as Li added 11 kills and three blocks. Cecily L. Joujon-Roche '12 notched three blocks while May finished with nine digs and three blocks. Anna D. Dikina '11 compiled 14 digs as Katie K. Spielbauer '13 chipped in 11 of her own. Melnikow totaled nine digs and three aces while Alyssa L. Rothman '13 dished out 42 assists.

Both squads will return to action at the MIT Invitational Friday, Sept. 25 and Saturday, Sept. 26.

-Mindy Brauer, DAPER Staff

#### **Eating Disorder Treatment**

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Page 16 THE TECH September 25, 2009

# SPORTS

# MIT Grad Student Competes in Pool Trick Shot Contest in Vegas

By Mike Gerhardt

SPORTS STAFF

MIT graduate student Timothy E. Chin G, the 21st ranked player in the nation, placed third out of twelve



competitors in the Ultimate Trick Shot Challenge, a pool trick shot tournament held in Las Vegas this past August.

After being invited to the tournament as an alternate when another competitor stepped out, Chin managed a win against the reigning world champion, Jamey Gray, in his first match. After qualifying for the eight-man playoff round on a tiebreaker, Chin knocked off previously undefeated Bruce Barthelette before dropping a second match against Gray to earn third place.

At the start of the tournament, the twelve competitors were split into two divisions for a roundrobin qualifier section. Chin had prepared for Gray in advance and managed to shoot his way to a 12-11 lead with two shots left. To tie the score, Gray hit a juggling-speed shot, in which the cue ball is hit multiple times and fifteen balls are pocketed.

In order to secure the win, Chin would have to hit the same shot, one which he had not practiced beforehand. Chin proceeded to hit the shot on his first try to secure the victory, 13-12.

"I hadn't actually worked on that final shot that he challenged me with, so it was even surprising to me that I was able to do it, especially on my first attempt," commented Chin after the tournament. "After I made it, I nearly jumped through the ceiling!"

After Chin's last-shot win, he struggled in the remainder of the tournament, posting two ties and two losses. However, Chin was in arguably the tougher of the two divisions, containing the last two world champions, Gray and Andy

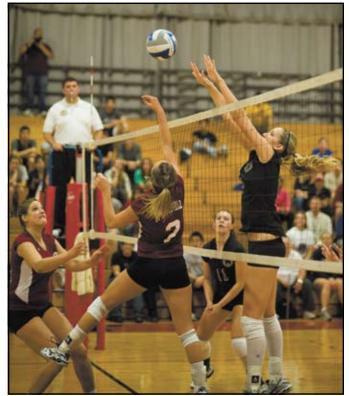
Fortunately, the 1-2-2 record was enough for Chin to qualify for

the 8-man elimination round on a tiebreaker based on percentage of shots made.

In the quarterfinals, Chin's luck continued. He knocked off Bruce Barthelette in his first match with a 9-4 score after Barthelette posted a 5-0 start. In the victory, Chin hit the Triple Jump, in which three balls must jump and fall simultaneously into a pocket.

In the semifinals, Chin faced Jamey Gray for the second time, hoping for a little more upset magic. Although Chin kept the score close in the beginning, Gray pulled away at the end for an 11-6 win. The loss put Chin in third place for the tournament, while Gray and previous world champion Andy Segal competed for first place. Segal managed the win, going through the entire tournament undefeated.

Chin was not disappointed with his result. After making it to the tournament on chance and squeezing into the playoff round on a tiebreaker, he was perfectly happy with his third place result.



SAMUEL L. RANGE—THE TEC

Senior captain Barden E. Cleeland attempts to block the ball during the second set of MIT's varsity volleyball match against Springfield College. The Engineers topped the then-undefeated Pride 3-1 in Tuesday's match.

# UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Friday, September 25, 2009

Women's Volleyball vs. Colby-Sawyer College

4 p.m., Rockwell Cage

Women's Volleyball vs. Connecticut College

8 p.m., Rockwell Cage

Saturday, September 19. 2009 Women's Volleyball vs. TBD

women's voneyban vs. 1BD

10 a.m., Rockwell Cage

Women's Soccer vs. Clark University

1 p.m., Steinbrenner Stadium

Men's Soccer vs. Worcester Polytechnic Institute

4 p.m., Steinbrenner Stadium

# Five Engineers Earn NEWMAC Weekly Accolades

Following a highly successful week by a number of MIT teams, five student-athletes earned Athlete of the Week Awards from the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) on

Sports Shorts Monday. Hemagiri Arumugam '10, Leslie A. Hansen '10, Emily Kuo '13, Kelly E. Schulte '12 and Jacqueline M. Wentz '10 were each tabbed as the league's top performer of the week in their respective sports. Garnering Women's Cross Country Runner of the Week honors, Wentz

helped MIT capture first place at the UMass-Dartmouth Invitational, a meet that featured many of the top squads in New England, including a number of NEWMAC schools. Wentz was the top overall finisher, a feat she accomplished twice as a junior, breaking the tape 19 seconds faster than her nearest competitor with a time of 17:40.

Wentz was joined by her male counterpart, Arumugam, who helped MIT earn a sixth-place finish among 37 teams at UMass-Dartmouth. Arumugam's time of 25:05 was good for 7th overall, fifth best of all Division III runners and tops among NEWMAC competitors.

In a 2-0 week for the volleyball squad, Schulte averaged 3.67 kills, 1.17 aces, 1.67 digs, 0.83 blocks, and a .600 hitting percentage. Against

Sports Shorts, Page 15

# SCOREBOARD

# Field Hockey Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2009 MIT (7-1) 0 Nichols College 2

Women's Soccer	
Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2009	
MIT (4-2)	4
Salem State College	2

Women's Volleyball					
Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2009					
Springfield College	1				
MIT (9-2)	3				

# MIT Women's Rugby Team Wins First Division Game Against Tufts

By Brandon Sparks TEAM COACH

Rugby season is here once again, and the women from MIT have wasted no time in getting back



to work on the pitch.
After capturing the
Division III championship at the annual
Beantown College
Tournament, where
they blanked all four

of their opponents, they were ready for the first test in their new Division. Last Saturday, the Tufts University team visited Briggs field to kick off the season with MIT.

Coming off a very successful season last year in which the Engineers were promoted from division four to division three, the ladies were excited to prove they belonged. The first half was a back and forth struggle for both Tufts

and MIT. Twenty minutes into the first half, MIT struck first when outside center Rachel E. Forman G dotted down for the opening try of the season. The struggle for structured play continued to plague both teams until late in the first half when MIT's forward pack started to make their presence known behind the play of senior prop Sarah E. Dee '10. Off of a ruck set up by Dee and her forward mates, Captain Alyssa M. Baccarella '11 slung the ball out to Sarah T. Gomez '11, who quickly worked the ball down the line to wing Adedovin T. Ogunniyi '11, who slid in for another try.

MIT kept the pressure on Tufts for the remainder of the half and saw a near try by Junior Caroline H. Hunting thwarted by a Tufts defender who slipped a hand under the ball before she could place it down. The score at halftime remained 10-

0, MIT.

During halftime, the team was able to analyze their mistakes — as well as their opponents' — and adjust their game play accordingly. Forty-three seconds into the second half, the forward pack scored a try, and conversion was made by Gomez for a score of 17-0. MIT's next score came on a cross-field kick by Gomez to Samantha R. Cohen '11, who tapped it down for her first try of the season. Tufts replied with their first score, but MIT scored twice more make the score 34-5.

MIT's defense, led by rookie Brooke A. Jarrett '10, clamped down on Tufts, delivered hard hits, and conceded only one try the rest of the game.

Baccarella added a final score to end the game, and the Engineers were victorious, 41-12.



Thomas W. Fronk '13 fights an Emmanuel College player for possession of the ball on Sept. 21. The Engineers won 9-2.